Abstract
Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper
Bachelors’s degree

Title: Cognitive-semantic and structural characteristics of lexical units from the conceptual domain “CLOTHES”

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Topical Importance: With the advent of cognitive approach in the linguistic studies of word-building (compounding and semantic derivation) it is being widely used as a crucial device for establishing and analyzing new words. The cognitive approach adopted in this paper is to provide a systematic description of the semantic structure of the lexical representatives of the domain «CLOTHES». The conceptual basis of this lexis can be organized via mental schemes which highlight the integral and salient semantic properties of the words under analysis. All these schemes constitute the general conceptual model underlying the semantic representation of these words.

Goal: The major goal of this study is the reconstruction of the cognitive and semantic model constituting a conceptual basis of words which signify various clothes items and elements of garments.

Tasks: There is a number of tasks one should accomplish to achieve the above set goal:
- selection of the English nouns signifying clothes items and garment elements;
- systematization of the lexis from the domain “CLOTHES” with consideration of their general and differential semantic features and structural type;
- carrying out the detailed semantic analysis, reconstruction on its basis of conceptual content and creation of cognitive models of the units nominating fashion items;
- identification and description of cognitive mechanisms including conceptual metaphor and metonymy underlying the semantics of new names of lexis from the domain “CLOTHES”.

Theoretical value of this work consists in further conceptual modeling development and categorization of the English language lexicon segment which objectivize various fashion items. Theoretical importance of the research is also determined by the complex approach to the studies into cognitive-semantic properties of nominative units referring to the domain “CLOTHES”.

Practical applicability: lies in the opportunity to use the obtained data in practice of teaching English at the advanced grade levels and by drawing up methodical materials.

Results: In particular, this paper investigates clothes names as the means of the verbalization of the conceptual sphere “CLOTHES”. These words can be categorized via parameter ARTEFACT which combines with a number of specifying properties such as MATERIAL, COLOUR, SHAPE, SIZE, etc.

Implementation advice: The data of the conducted research, examples and their translations can serve as illustrative material in theoretical courses in English lexicology and cognitive semantics.